

## **Minutes**

### **Tennessee Interagency Council on Homelessness (IACH)**

February 28, 2017; 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Tennessee Towers

312 Rosa Parks Blvd, Nashville, TN

#### **Present:**

Bob Currie – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
Abigail Dowell – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
Jenifer Robl – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
Matt Yancey – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
Todd Skelton – Governor's Office  
Nikki Edney – Centerstone Research Institute  
Michael Myszka – Bureau of TennCare  
Marisa Whitsett – Alliance Healthcare Services  
Mike Dunthorn – Knoxville Continuum of Care  
Brian Stephens – TN Dept. of Children's Services  
Justin Singleton – TN Dept. of Education  
Judith Tackett – Davidson County Metro Homelessness Commission  
Robyn Butterfield – Alliance Healthcare Services  
Julie Ritter – BlueCare  
Ashley Blum – Park Center  
Jimmy Catlett – Volunteer Behavioral Health Services

#### **On conference line:**

Daniel Heim – Veteran's Affairs  
Jessica Carlton – Helen Ross McNabb  
Terry Burdette – HART Continuum of Care  
Dorcas Griffin – Shelby County Government  
Sydney Doyle – Community Alliance for the Homeless  
Justine Bass – TN Dept. of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services  
Amy McDonald – West TN Continuum of Care  
Debbie Hillin – Buffalo Valley Continuum of Care  
Paul Hines – TN Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development  
Valerie Arrington – Frontier Health Services  
Stephen Wright – Southeast Continuum of Care  
Michael Salazar – HUD Middle Tennessee Office  
Melanie Cordell – Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care  
Stephen Carter – ARCH Continuum of Care

## Notes and Action Steps:

Agenda Item	Notes	Action Item
Welcome and Introductions		
Approval of November 29, 2016 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes were unable to be approved as they were not sent out ahead of time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abigail will send minutes</li> </ul>
New IACH Co-Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Michael Dunthorn has agreed to be the co-lead for the Interagency Council and the Executive Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
2017 Governor's Budget and Initiative Proposals – Todd Skelton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Todd was asked to share the Governor's budget proposal and key initiatives to the council to see where our action steps may align with his goals.</li> <li>For an in-depth look at the budget, please refer to Commissioner Martin's presentation at the link below.</li> <li>Tennessee Reconnect Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help Tennesseans earn a post-secondary degree</li> <li>Will help stay on track for the Drive to 55 goal</li> <li>Going through legislative process now</li> <li>There is a pilot program occurring right now for TCAT</li> </ul> </li> <li>STRONG Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tuition reimbursement for National Guardsmen</li> </ul> </li> <li>Public Safety Act (2016) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graduated Sanctions as an alternative to revocation of parole or probation</li> </ul> </li> <li>Broadband Accessibility Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates a grant program and permits co-ops to provide broadband</li> </ul> </li> <li>IMPROVE Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain and strengthen roadways for improved transportation</li> <li>Strengthen economic competitiveness</li> <li>Tax Cuts to manufacturers to help keep manufacturing companies and jobs in Tennessee</li> </ul> </li> <li>Supportive Living Facility reimbursement</li> <li>Appropriations for housing for people with mental illness</li> </ul>	
Affordable Housing – State Budget Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A request was made for the Council to look at how it can help influence the governor's budget to provide more assistance with affordable housing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abigail will f/up with council and workgroups to create the budget group and find a facilitator</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melanie Cordell of Tennessee Valley shared her experience with state legislators at the Housing Day on the Hill. It was recommended to her that she would need to compile data to prove the need for affordable housing and the type of affordable housing needed.</li> <li>• To affect next year's budget, an amendment would need to be filed between March and April</li> <li>• Melanie has reached out to a market analysis who suggested workforce development housing and she believes Point in Time count data and Housing Inventory Count data will help prove the need.</li> <li>• Because so many state departments sit on the Council, the Council as a whole would not be able to push for an amendment to the Governor's budget for next year.</li> <li>• With that said, the Council can look at making a proposal for the following year and begin the process to create that proposal.</li> <li>• It was discussed that a smaller group of council members should get together for a half/full day workshop lead by a facilitator to create a proposal that would then be voted upon by the full council. This would likely require a couple of phone calls prior to the work day in order to make sure all pertinent data was collected beforehand.</li> <li>• As the group looks at housing needs, it was also recommended to look at what barriers are standing in the way of housing homeless individuals – consider sex offender laws as an example.</li> <li>• While discussing timeline, it was realized that in order to make an impact on next year's budget, we would need to have a final, council approved proposal by the end of July or beginning of August. It was decided to adjust our quarterly meeting dates by moving them to be July, October, January, and April as opposed to the current schedule of August, November, February, May. This will align the council with the state fiscal year.</li> </ul>	
Plan Edits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several edits were suggested during the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on this quarter's</li> </ul>

	<p>workgroup meetings and brought before the Council for review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further suggestions were discussed and are now reflected through edits.</li> <li>• Attached is the State Plan Edit Cheat sheet with the suggested changes.</li> </ul>	<p>feedback, the full document will be edited and sent out for a final review prior to the next IACH meetings</p>
Action Step Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As discussed in the last IACH meeting, the workgroups will now be suggesting certain steps to be sent to the IACH for review and assistance.</li> <li>• 1.1.1 – 1.1.7 – It has been suggested that we consider adjusting the Target date for Completion of these steps. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It was recommended that we survey the CoCs to see how close they are to meeting the benchmarks.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 6.3 – Concern regarding this steps feasibility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Suggested that staff at different state agencies be trained in how to complete other agency service applications. This will cut down on the number of places a person will have to go to get the assistance they need.</li> <li>○ Suggested to look into who has online applications and if not, are they moving toward online applications.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 9.3 – Help needed by Prevention workgroup to remember the ultimate goal of the action step. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Several instances of how there is work being done to meet this step were discussed and will be added to the implementation power point</li> <li>○ Julie Ritter of BlueCare discussed their coordination with the Memphis CoC and work to reach out to other CoCs across the state to implement the same practice statewide. A call was conducted in January between the 3 Managed Care Organizations contacted by TennCare and TennCare to discuss this type of partnership with all 3 MCOs and the CoCs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<p>News and Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A media event to roll out the plan is occurring March 9<sup>th</sup> in Jackson Tennessee. A request to all state departments has been made to have a .</li> <li>• Knoxville and Tennessee Valley are coordinating to have a media roll out for the plan later in March. The date is currently set for March 14<sup>th</sup> .</li> <li>• TDMHSAS has requested the CoCs send aggregate 2017 PIT/HIC count data to inform the Council of the state's progress on homelessness and to update our literature and graphs with accurate numbers as we partner in local press events across the state. Those who participated in an HMIS administrators call with TDMHSAS in January unanimously agreed that the easiest method of transfer would be to send a copy as they were submitting their report to HUD. This information will keep those involved with the execution of the plan greatly informed on our state's progress in meeting our goals. Please use Jenna Robl's e-mail address to send the data – <a href="mailto:jenifer.robl@tn.gov">jenifer.robl@tn.gov</a></li> </ul>	
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